

Malvern, PA—On Friday, Congressman Joe Sestak spoke at the Crime Victims' Center (CVC) of Chester County's 35th Anniversary Banquet. The Congressman reflected on the importance of groups such as the CVC. —

"As a husband and the father of a young daughter, I abhor crimes of violence against women," said Congressman Sestak. "Every year 1.2 million women are forcibly raped by their current or former male partners, some more than once, and four women die every day as a result of domestic violence, totaling over 1,400 a year."

The Congressman praised the center's staff for their work.

"I commend Executive Director Peggy Gusz and the Crime Victims' Center of Chester County staff for their monumental service," said Congressman Sestak.

The CVC is a private, community-based, non-profit 501(c)(3) comprehensive victim services agency. CVC is the designated provider of services to sexual violence victims for Chester County, offering crisis response to area hospitals and police stations, information on victim rights and available services, individual and group counseling, as well as other services.

To support the goals of the CVC, Congressman Sestak voted in favor of HRes 590, which supported the goals and ideals of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month and expressed that Congress should raise awareness of domestic violence in the United States. He also supported HR 4120, the Effective Child Pornography Prosecution Act of 2007, which would strengthen prosecution and distribution of child pornography by closing a legal loophole that allowed a Kansas man convicted of possessing child pornography to escape punishment. Additionally, the Congressman supported the initial version of the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2008 which would have appropriated \$10,000,000 for sex offender management measures such as monitoring.

Born and raised in Delaware County, former 3-star Admiral Joe Sestak served in the Navy for 31 years and now serves as the Representative from the 7th District of Pennsylvania. He led a series of operational commands at sea, including Commander of an aircraft carrier battle group of 30 U.S. and allied ships with over 15,000 sailors and 100 aircraft that conducted operations in Afghanistan and Iraq. After 9/11, Joe was the first Director of "Deep Blue," the Navy's anti-terrorism unit that established strategic and operations policies for the "Global War on Terrorism." He served as President Clinton's Director for Defense Policy at the National Security Council in the White House, and holds a Ph.D. in Political Economy and Government from

Harvard University. According to the office of the House Historian, Joe is the highest-ranking former military officer ever elected to the U.S. House of Representatives.

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